

Third Ward

Complete Communities DRAFT Summary of Existing Plans September 20, 2017

Note: Summary Does Not Include the
Houston Southeast Plan

HOUSTON



Civic Engagement

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Civic Engagement	Develop a website focused on new development going through application processes; encourage informed residents to participate in planning commission meetings	P & D
◆		Organize an annual neighborhood summit to share successes and redefine priorities for the coming year	
◆	Policy	Create and push forward an annual public policy agenda and advocacy plan around issues of gentrification, land control, economic development, public spending and equity	
◆			
◆	Build Collective Capacity	Create and distribute educational materials to promote understanding and participation in political processes	
◆		Work to encourage voter participation	
◆		Support existing political engagement efforts such as voter registration drives and civic club initiatives	
◆		Create local media campaigns to demonstrate neighborhood solidarity	
◆		Develop a block captain program	HPD

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Legend:

Plans and Studies

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Economy and Workforce

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Job Training and Job Placement	Increase job placement opportunities	OBO
◆		Increase job training opportunities	OBO
◆ ◆		Encourage anchor institutions and larger-scale businesses to work through local community organizations to help employ residents through job fairs and local hiring	OBO
◆ ◆		Create programs with anchor institutions/larger-scale businesses/local organizations to anticipate workforce sector needs and provide training in those anticipated sectors	OBO
◆		Encourage new businesses pay a living wage	OBO
◆		Increase job-training resources in the neighborhood, including trade programs	OBO
◆		Create a mentorship program between business owners and young adults in the neighborhood	OBO
◆	Strengthen Local Businesses and Entrepreneurs	Create a Local Business Association or a Business Improvement District	OBO
◆		Support local historically underutilized businesses	OBO
◆		Create a mentorship program for locally owned and black owned businesses	OBO
◆ ◆		Support businesses that serve local needs (full service grocery stores, restaurants, basic services, washateria and hardware stores, banks and financial services)	OBO
◆		Create a "Buy Third Ward" campaign to encourage people to shop at locally owned and black owned businesses	OBO
◆		Encourage establishments to participate in local rewards program for card carrying customers	OBO
◆		Create a business directory for the neighborhood	OBO
◆		Create a façade improvement program on Emancipation Ave. and explore the potential of it becoming a youth job training program	P&D
◆		Expand access to small business support programs including financial support, loans and funding opportunities	HCDD
◆ ◆		Develop small, cooperatively-owned businesses [ongoing]	
◆ ◆	New Development	Create new cooperative businesses along commercial corridors and between Holman St. and McGowen St.	
◆ ◆		Develop pop-up commercial spaces as semi-permanent or temporary installations to incubate local business	OBO
◆ ◆		Create mixed-use development that brings vibrancy to neighborhood	
◆ ◆		Focus mixed-use development along corridors such as: Emancipation Ave., Alabama St., Elgin St., and Scott St.	
◆ ◆		Attract a low-price clothing, home goods, or hardware retailer as a catalyst for more businesses	OBO
◆	Economic District	Advocate for a Parking Management District to support smaller businesses	P&D
◆		Develop a graphic identity to promote the Emancipation Economic Corridor	MOCA
◆		Signage or banner program to create a sense of cohesiveness along Emancipation Ave. and Scott St.	MOCA
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Education

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Strengthen Local Schools	Advocate for strengthening the magnet programs at Yates HS and all feeder schools	HISD
◆		Strengthen parent and teacher partnerships and organizations	HISD
◆		Support parents' voices in shaping the future of the schools, including support groups to fundraise, supervise field trips, and advocate for improvements [ongoing]	HISD
◆		Create or support tutoring and mentoring programs	HISD
◆		Inventory all organizations and institutions working in neighborhood schools and ensure they are working together holistically	
◆	After-School and Summer Programs	Create and distribute a directory of out-of-school programs	CoH
◆		Expand out-of-school programs	HPARD; HPL
◆		Develop youth mentorship programs with local leaders and role models	CoH
◆		Create a college-bound experience program with area universities	

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Environment

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Air Quality	Plant tree buffers along highways (I-69, I-45) to clean the air	

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Health

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Healthy Food	Attract a grocery store and/or a pharmacy/convenience store	HHD
◆		Build community gardens in vacant lots along Emancipation Ave.	
◆	Support Services	Create a directory of existing health-related programs	HHD
◆		Provide counseling and other supportive services to families in need	
◆		Provide mobility options near residents' homes to ensure they can reach healthcare facilities	
◆	Access to Care	Expand access to preventative healthcare through outreach and health fairs	HHD
◆		Expand knowledge of healthcare and other health services in the community through outreach and visibility	
◆		Expand access to care by attracting a health clinic to the neighborhood	

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Housing

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆ ◆	Create a Community Land Trust for Affordable Housing	Identify properties and landowners to include in a community land trust	HCD
◆ ◆		Develop outreach materials (e.g. brochures) to explain benefits of a land trust to property owners	HCD
◆ ◆		Seek technical assistance and legal support	HCD
◆ ◆		Construct affordable housing (and/or businesses) on land owned by the land trust	HCD
◆	Housing Policy	Create an advocacy team to work with residents, city agencies, property owners and developers to prioritize and advocate for truly affordable housing that meets community needs, builds on existing architectural character, and minimizes displacement	HCD
◆ ◆	Preserve and Maintain Existing Housing	Develop a program to assist with home maintenance and repairs to prevent demolition of historic homes	HCD
◆		Identify historic housing that is at risk of demolition; establish partnerships to move and renovate the housing to provide affordable housing on vacant infill lots	HCD
◆		Acquire vacant or abandoned homes for new housing	HCD
◆ ◆	New Housing	Create a community plan for affordable housing based on vacant lots, transit, land ownership and other key factors	HCD
◆		Identify housing trends and market needs, focused on existing residents, and address mismatches between existing housing and actual needs in neighborhood	HCD
◆		Build affordable housing, both rental and owner, that meets the needs of the community	HCD
◆		Build new housing for families to increase number of young residents in neighborhood	HCD
◆	Protect Current Residents	Work with homeowners to secure historic preservation tax exemptions for renovations	HP; HCD
◆		Create or support renter assistance programs such as tenant counseling, emergency rental assistance, eviction protection and financial training	DON; HCD
◆		Create a program to support existing homeowners with information and assistance on property taxes, exemptions, wills, predatory lending etc.	DON; HCD

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Infrastructure, Mobility and Transit

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Transportation	Develop a neighborhood ride share program or transit bus (focused on serving seniors)	METRO
◆		Advocate for extension of Westheimer bus line east along Elgin	
✦	New Sidewalks	Webster St. from Robertson St. to Canfield St.	PWE
✦		Elgin St./Lockwood Dr. from Texas Spur 5 to Gulf Freeway Service Road	
◆	Improved Sidewalks	Tuam St., Live Oak St. and Sawyer St.	PWE
◆	Improved Streets	Create a Complete Street for Emancipation Ave. & Alabama St.	PWE; ReBuild Houston; METRO
◆		Sidewalks, lighting, public art and beautification focused on northern section of Emancipation Ave., Holman St., Alabama St., Elgin St., McGowen St., and Scott St. [ongoing]	
✦	Streetscaping	Improve Cullen St. from I-45 to Wheeler St.	PWE; CenterPoint
✦	Improved Traffic Signals	Ennis St. at Cleburne St. [ongoing]	PWE
✦		Blodgett St. at Alameda St. [ongoing]	PWE
◆	Street Lighting	Improve street lighting (including switching from traditional to LED lights) on major corridors: McGowen St.; Elgin St.; Alabama St.; Emancipation Ave.; Scott St.	CenterPoint
◆		Evaluate existing drainage and develop a plan for necessary improvements, specifically to help with debris in open ditches, poor maintenance or collapsed culverts	
◆	Drainage Projects	Create storm water gardens along major sites of flooding, especially along I-69; Chartres St. near Alabama St. and Elgin St.	ReBuild Houston, Storm Water Maintenance
◆		Improve drainage on Columbia Tap Trail	
◆	Bike Lanes	Improve drainage in Sampson St./Drew St. area	PWE
◆		Waterline extension on Eagle St. into TSU campus [completed]	ReBuild Houston, Storm Water Maintenance
◆		Create on shared on-street lanes ("sharrows") on Blodgett St. and Emancipation Ave.	PWE
◆		Cullen Blvd. from Wheeler St. to Elgin St. (off-street) [ongoing]	PWE
◆		Alameda Rd. from Blodgett St. to US-59 (dedicated in street ROW)	PWE
◆		Hutchins St. from Alabama St. to I-45 (shared on-street)	PWE
◆		Live Oak St. from Blodgett St. to Pierce St. (shared on-street)	PWE
◆		Tierwester St. from Blodgett St. to Alabama St. except for existing lane (dedicated in street ROW), continuing from Alabama St. to Tuam St. (shared on-street)	PWE
◆		Pierce St. from US-59 to Live Oak St. (dedicated in street ROW)	PWE
◆		Gray St. from US-59 to Live Oak St. (dedicated in street ROW), continuing to and turning onto Nettleton St., then turning onto Webster St. until Velascon St. (shared on-street)	PWE
◆		McGowen St. from US-59 to Tierwester St. (dedicated in street ROW) and turning onto Tierwester St. until Tuam St. (shared on-street)	PWE
◆			PWE

◆	Tuam St. from US-59 to Cullen Blvd. (shared on-street)	PWE
◆	Wheeler St. from Emancipation Ave. to Ennis St. (shared on-street), connecting to existing bike lane off-street, continuing until Cullen Blvd. (dedicated in street ROW)	PWE
◆	Blodgett St. from Almeda Rd. to SH 288 (shared on-street) to Hutchins St. (dedicated in street ROW), continuing to Live Oak St. (shared on-street)	PWE

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Neighborhood Character

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Historic Preservation	Rename Dowling Street to Emancipation Avenue [completed]	
◆		Apply for COH Historic District Designation or other levels of historic designation at the federal or state level	HP
◆		Identify historic housing at risk of being demolished and move to vacant lots	HCDD
◆		Inventory historic buildings that are underutilized or vacant	HP
◆ ◆	Design Guidelines and Neighborhood Protection	Establish design guidelines for new development	P&D
◆		Develop guidelines to regulate architectural character of new housing to match and strengthen context of the neighborhood	P&D
◆ ◆		Use minimum lot size, minimum building line and setback requirements to protect neighborhoods	DON; P&D
◆	Public Art	Integrate public space, history and culture by creating community art installations	MOCA
◆		Develop a youth public art program to design and install "Art Cans" (trash cans)	METRO
◆	Celebrating the Community	Develop and implement a grassroots early action grant program for area groups to organize community events and celebrations, block parties, clean-ups, fairs, etc.	
◆		Support weekly Tour de Hood program	
◆	Cleaning Up	Ensure property owners and renters are keeping lots clean and mowed	DON
◆		Organize neighborhood clean-ups	DON
◆		Place more trash cans around neighborhood	METRO

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Parks, Open Spaces and Community Amenities

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Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	New Parks	Create pocket parks along the Emancipation Ave. commercial corridor	HPARD
◆ ◆		Repurpose vacant lots as mini-parks, plazas or urban gardens particularly at: Live Oak St. and McGowen St.; near Malone Park (Nettleton St/Tuam St); near Scott St. and Drew St.; Lucinda St. and McGowen St; Callie St. and Dennis St.	LARA; HPARD
◆		Create a new park in University Village neighborhood	HPARD
◆	Open Space Network	Link vacant lots, or lots owned by non-profits or publicly, throughout neighborhood	HPARD; Houston Parks Board
◆		Identify and program vacant parcels next to schools to fit needs of youth	HISD
◆		Create green house on Alabama St. adjacent to community garden	
◆		Program vacant parcels next to religious institutions to support faith-based activities	
◆	Park Improvements	(CIP 2017-2021 Unspecified Park Improvements)	HPARD
◆		Ballfield Lighting	HPARD
◆		Splashpad Renovation	HPARD
◆		Playground Replacements	HPARD
◆		Swimming Pool Upgrades	HPARD
◆	Third Ward Multi-Service Center	Building Renovation	Building Services
◆		New Parking and Bike Trail	Building Services
◆	Smith Library	New Roof and Exterior Renovation	Building Services

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Safety

Summary of Existing Plans and Studies

Plans	Description	Projects/Programs/Policies	City Departments
◆	Block Captains	Create a block captain program	HPD
◆		Organize formal (e.g. National Night Out) and informal (e.g. neighborhood bike rides) events to bring law enforcement together with residents and build trust	HPD
◆		Advocate for police bike patrol in the community	HPD
◆		Work with residents and leaders to identify areas in the community with safety concerns	HPD (Keep Houston SAFE Initiative)
◆	Safety Campaign	Create an outreach campaign to encourage residents to use the police non-emergency number to report suspicious activity	
◆	Safe Places	Use Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies to enhance the sense of safety in crime hot spots	
◆		Mobile security cameras in crime hot spots	
◆		Address crime hot spots along the Southeast Corridor Light Rail Line	HPD, METRO

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